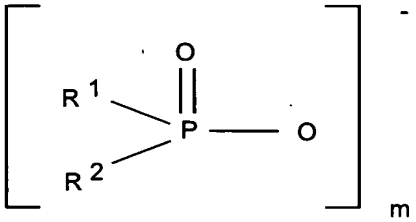
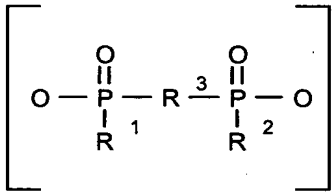
Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A flame retardant and stabilizer combined, for thermoplastic polymers, ~~which comprises, as component A,~~comprising from 25 to 99.9% by weight of a component A selected from the group consisting of a phosphinic salt of the formula (I), ~~and/or~~ a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II), ~~and/or~~ polymers ~~of these~~of the formula (I), polymers of the formula (II) and mixtures thereof,



$$M^{m+} \qquad (I)$$



$$M_x^{m+} \qquad (II)$$

where

R^1, R^2 are identical or different and are C_1-C_6-alkyl, linear or branched, ~~and/~~or aryl;

R^3 is C_1-C_{10}-alkylene, linear or branched, C_6-C_{10}-arylene, -alkylarylene or -arylalkylene;

M is Mg, Ca, Al, Sb, Sn, Ge, Ti, Zn, Fe, Zr, Ce, Bi, Sr, Mn, Li, Na, K, ~~and/~~or a protonated nitrogen base;

m is 1 to 4;

n is 1 to 4;

x is 1 to 4,

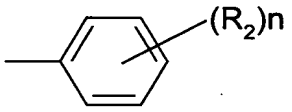
~~and comprises~~, as component B, from 10 to 75% by weight of a nitrogen-containing synergist or of a phosphorus/nitrogen flame retardant,~~ and comprises,~~ as component C, from 0.1 to 50% by weight of a basic or amphoteric oxide, hydroxide, carbonate, silicate, borate, stannate, mixed oxide/hydroxide, oxide/hydroxide/carbonate, hydroxide/silicate, ~~or~~ hydroxide/borate, or a mixture ~~of these substances~~thereof, ~~and comprises,~~ as component D, from 0 to 5% by weight of a phosphonite of the structure

$$R\text{-}[P(OR_1)_2]_m \quad (I)$$

where

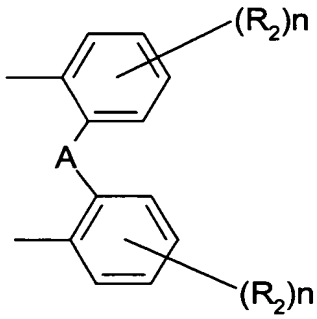
R is a mono- or polyvalent aliphatic, aromatic, or heteroaromatic organic radical, and

R_1 is a compound of the structure (II)



(II)

or the two radicals R_1 form a bridging group of the structure (III)



(III)

where

A is a direct bond, O, S, C_{1-18}-alkylene (linear or branched), or C_{1-18}-alkylidene (linear or branched),

where

R_2 independently of one another, are C_{1-12}-alkyl (linear or branched), C_{1-12}-alkoxy, or C_{5-12}-cycloalkyl, and

n is from 0 to 5, and

m is from 1 to 4,

~~and comprises~~, as component E, from 0 to 5% by weight of an ester or salt of montan wax acid, and comprises, as component F, from 0.1 to 5% by weight of an N,N'-bispiperidinyl-1,3-benzenedicarboxamide and/or N,N'-bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidinyl)-1,3-benzenedicarboxamide, the entirety of the components always being 100% by weight.

2. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 are identical or different, and are C_1-C_6-alkyl, linear or branched, ~~and/~~or phenyl.

3. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein R^1 and R^2 are identical or different and are methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, tert-butyl, n-pentyl ~~and/~~or phenyl.

4. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein R^3 is methylene, ethylene, n-propylene, isopropylene, n-butylene, tert-butylene, n-pentylene, n-octylene, ~~or~~ n-dodecylene; phenylene, ~~or~~ naphthylene; methylphenylene, ethylphenylene, tert-butylphenylene, methylnaphthylene, ethylnaphthylene, ~~or~~ tert-butylnaphthylene; phenylmethylene, phenylethylene, phenylpropylene, or phenylbutylene.

5. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, wherein M is calcium ions, aluminum ions, or zinc ions.

6. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, wherein component B ~~comprises~~ is a condensation ~~products~~ product of melamine.

7. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 6~~claim 6, wherein the condensation ~~products~~ product of melamine ~~comprise~~ is melem, melam, melon ~~and/~~or compounds thereof having higher condensation levels.

8. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, wherein component B ~~comprises~~ is reaction products of melamine with polyphosphoric acid, reaction products of condensation products of melamine with polyphosphoric acid, or ~~comprises a mixture~~mixtures thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in claim 8, wherein the reaction products comprise dimelamine pyrophosphate, melamine polyphosphate, melem polyphosphate, melam polyphosphate, melon polyphosphate ~~and/~~or mixed polysalts ~~of this type~~thereof.

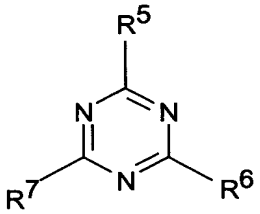
10. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in claim 9, wherein component B ~~comprises~~ is melamine polyphosphate.

11. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, wherein the phosphorus/nitrogen flame ~~retardants comprise~~retardant is a nitrogen-containing ~~phosphates~~ phosphate of the formula $(NH_4)_y H_{3-y} PO_4$ or $(NH_4 PO_3)_z$, where y is from 1 to 3, and z is from 1 to 10 000.

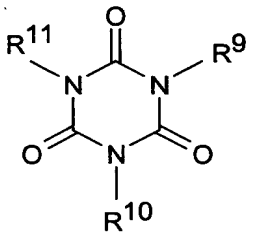
12. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in claim 11, wherein the phosphorus/nitrogen flame ~~retardants comprise~~retardant is

ammonium hydrogenphosphate, ammonium dihydrogenphosphate, ~~and/~~or ammonium polyphosphate.

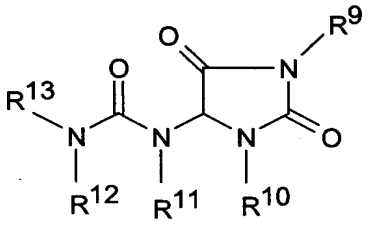
13. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, wherein the nitrogen-containing ~~synergists comprise those~~ synergist is of the formulae (III) to (VIII), or a mixture ~~of these~~thereof



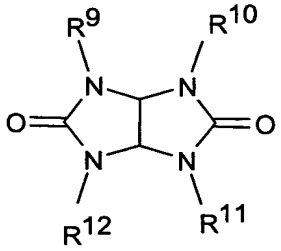
(III)



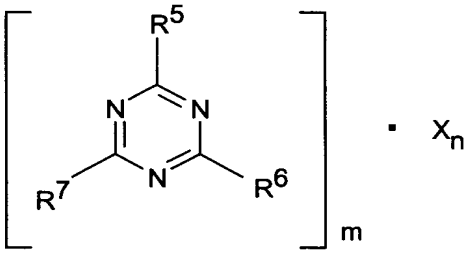
(IV)



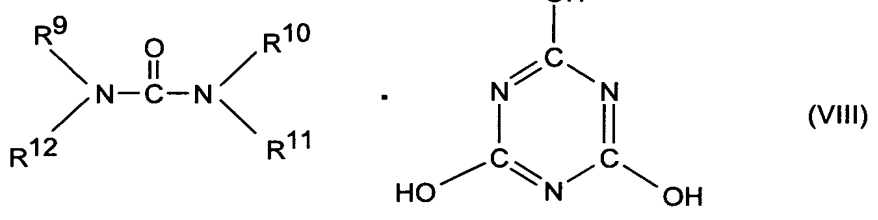
(V)



(VI)



(VII)



(VIII)

where

R^5 to R^7 are hydrogen, C_1-C_8-alkyl, C_5-C_{16}-cycloalkyl or -alkylcycloalkyl, optionally substituted with a hydroxy or a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkyl function, C_2-C_8-alkenyl, C_1-C_8-alkoxy, -acyl, -acyloxy, C_6-C_{12}-aryl or -arylalkyl, -OR^8, or -$N(R^8)R^9$, or ~~else a system of~~ a N-alicyclic or N-aromatic ~~nature~~system,

R^8 is hydrogen, C_1-C_8-alkyl, C_5-C_{16}-cycloalkyl or -alkylcycloalkyl, optionally substituted with a hydroxy or a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkyl function, C_2-C_8-alkenyl, C_1-C_8-alkoxy, -acyl, -acyloxy, or C_6-C_{12}-aryl or -arylalkyl,

R^9 to R^{13} are the same as the groups for R^8, or ~~else~~ -O-R^8,

m and n independently of one another, are 1, 2, 3, or 4,

X is ~~acids~~ an acid which ~~can form~~forms adducts with triazine compounds (III); or ~~comprise~~ an oligomeric ~~esters~~ ester of tris(hydroxyethyl) isocyanurate with aromatic polycarboxylic acids.

14. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 13~~claim 1, wherein the nitrogen-containing ~~synergists comprise~~synergist is benzoguanamine, tris(hydroxyethyl) isocyanurate, allantoin, glycoluril, melamine, melamine cyanurate, dicyandiamide ~~and/~~or guanidine.

15. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 14, which comprises carbodiimides~~claim 1, further comprising a carbodiimide.

16. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 15~~claim 1, wherein component C ~~comprises~~ is magnesium oxide, calcium oxide, aluminum oxide, zinc oxide, manganese oxide, ~~and/~~or tin oxide.

17. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 15~~claim 1, wherein component C ~~comprises~~ is aluminum hydroxide, boehmite, dihydrotalcite, hydrocalumite, magnesium hydroxide,

calcium hydroxide, zinc hydroxide, tin oxide hydrate, manganese hydroxide, zinc borate, basic zinc silicate or zinc stannate.

18. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 17, which comprises~~claim 1, comprising from 50 to 90% by weight of component A, from 0 to 50% by weight of component B, from 1 to 20% by weight of component C, from 0 to 5% by weight of component D, from 0 to 5% by weight of component E, and from 0.1 to 5% by weight of component F.

19. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 18, which comprises~~claim 1, comprising from 50 to 80% by weight of component A, from 20 to 50% by weight of component B, from 2 to 20% by weight of component C, from 0 to 3% by weight of component D, from 0 to 3% by weight of component E, and from 0.1 to 4% by weight of component F.

20. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant ~~plastics~~ plastic molding composition, comprising a flame retardant and stabilizer combined, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 19~~claim 1.

21. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant ~~plastics~~ plastic molding composition as claimed in claim 20, wherein the plastic ~~comprises~~ is a thermoplastic ~~polymers of the type represented by~~polymer selected from the group consisting of HI (high-impact) polystyrene, polyphenylene ethers, polyamides, polyesters, polycarbonates, ~~and~~ or blends or polyblends of ~~the type represented by~~ ABS (acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene), ~~or~~ PC/ABS (polycarbonate/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene), or PPE/HIPS (polyphenylene ether/HI polystyrene) ~~plastics~~plastic.

22. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant ~~plastics~~ plastic molding composition as claimed in claim 20 ~~or 21~~, wherein the plastic ~~comprises~~ is polyamide.

23. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant ~~plastics~~ plastic molding composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 20 to 22, which, based on the plastics molding composition~~claim 1, ~~comprises~~ comprising from 2 to 50% by weight of the flame retardant and stabilizer combined, based on the plastic molding composition.

24. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant ~~plastics~~ plastic molding composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 20 to 23, which, based on the plastics molding composition, comprises~~ claim 1, comprising from 10 to 30% by weight of the flame retardant and stabilizer combined, based on the plastic molding composition.

25. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant ~~plastics~~ plastic molding composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 20 to 24, which comprises~~claim 20, wherein the flame retardant and stabilizer combined~~, constituted as claimed in claim 20~~ further comprises a carboiimide.

26. (Currently Amended) A polymer compound ~~molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament, or a polymer fiber~~ comprising a flame retardant~~/stabilizer composition~~and stabilizer combined, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 19~~claim 1, wherein the polymer compound is selected from the group consisting of a polymer molding, polymer film, polymer filament and polymer fiber.

27. (Currently Amended) The polymer ~~molding, polymer film, polymer filament, or polymer fiber~~composition as claimed in claim 26, wherein the polymer ~~comprises~~ is selected from the group consisting of HI (high-impact) polystyrene, polyphenylene ethers, polyamides, polyesters, polycarbonates, and blends or polyblends of ~~the type represented by~~ ABS (acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene), or PC/ABS (polycarbonate/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene).

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~polymer molding, polymer film, polymer filament, or polymer fiber~~composition as claimed in claim 26 ~~or 27, which, based on the polymer~~

~~content, comprises an amount of~~ comprising from 2 to 50% by weight of the flame retardant and stabilizer combined, based on the polymer content.

29. (Currently Amended) The polymer ~~molding, polymer film, polymer filament, or polymer fiber~~composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 26 to 28, which, based on the polymer content, comprises an amount of~~claim 26, comprising from 10 to 30% by weight of the flame retardant and stabilizer combined, based on the polymer content.

30. (Currently Amended) The polymer ~~molding, polymer film, polymer filament, or polymer fiber~~composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 26 to 29, which comprises~~claim 26, wherein the flame retardant and stabilizer combined~~, constituted as claimed in claim 15~~ further comprises a carbodiimide.